



january 27, 2015

hartford street zc news

...on the first day of the tenth lunar month of 528, Bodhidharma arrived at Nanjing. The emperor (emperor Wu) spoke to him as follows: "Since I've assumed the throne, I've built temples and written [about] scriptures, plus I've brought about the ordination of incalculable number of monks. What merit does this [activity] have?"

Bodhidharma replied "no merit whatsoever."

The emperor then asked "Why does this have no merit?"

Bodhidharma said, "These are matters of small consequence in the affairs of men and gods that are caused by transgressions [literally, outflows]. It's like shadows chasing form, nothing real about it [literally, although it's there it's not real]."

The emperor then asked, "What is genuine merit?"

Bodhidharma said, "Pure wisdom of sublime perfection, experiencing one's [personal] solitary emptiness, seeking nothing in the world."

The emperor then asked, "What is the principal of the holy truth?"

Bodhidharma said, "Across the vastness, nothing holy."



public schedule

mondays

*7:00 am zazen

*7:40 am morning chanting service

**last monday of each month, no morning schedule*

6:00 pm zazen

6:40 pm evening chanting service

tuesdays - fridays

6:00 am zazen

6:40 am kinhin (walking meditation)

6:50 am zazen

7:20 am chanting service

7:40 am soji (brief temple cleaning)

The emperor said "who is facing me?"

Bodhidharma said, "I don't know."

[Zen's Chinese Heritage: The Masters and Their Teachings](#) - Andy Ferguson



january 2004 - Myo, Larry and Alex @hszc

words from our Abbot: Rev. Myō Lahey

See and be Seen...

Someone recently said to me: it's hard to know what helps people. I would have to agree. In fact, it's almost impossible. Sometimes people tell us, such and such would help me; sometimes they're right. Sometimes they're quite wrong. Sometimes we may feel we may know what would help so and so. Sometimes we're right, and sometimes the results are disastrous. Of course, part of that is related in the somewhat mysterious nature of what help means....

...we're told that really, only the Buddhas know exactly what's helpful for someone at just the right moment. I certainly claim no such knowledge. Still, there's some aspects of our life that seem to cause us a lot of trouble. Maybe by chance, ok not by chance, they are kind of

6:00 pm zazen
6:40 pm chanting service

[thursdays](#) study hour 7:30pm

saturdays

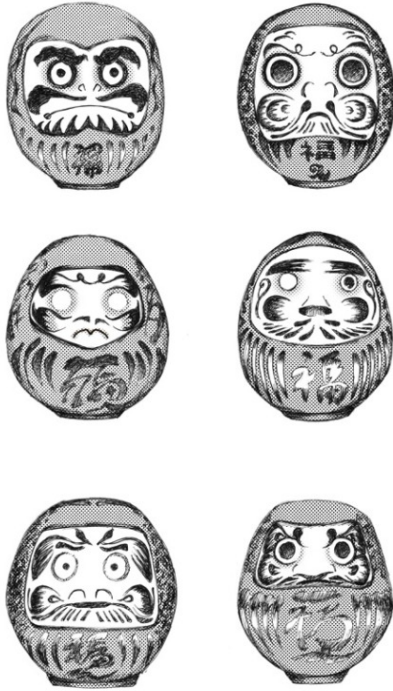
6:30 am zazen
7:10 am chanting service
7:25 am soji
8:30 am drop-in instruction
9:25 am zazen
10:15 am dharma talk
11:00 am refreshments/social*

** if a ceremony applies it will occur before social time*



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sketched out by our version or understanding of the precepts--areas that present considerable difficulty--such things as violence, sexuality, honesty, how we relate to others, and how we take care of and deal with so-called inanimate objects or our possessions in our life.

These are all areas where trouble can arise. One of the places that trouble can arise is in the lap of the Sangha...one of the general categories of what seems to be helpful is for people to look at and study and experience, what it might mean to meet other beings face to face in genuineness and openness, regardless of what's going on. That is one thing that I have found to be helpful almost universally...

[hszc dharma talk 11 2011](#)



upcoming events:

dharma talks @10:15am, saturdays

- **Myō Lahey** - feb 7,21,28; mar 7,14
- **Daiko Tanzen, David Bullock** - **jan 31**, mar 28, may 23,jul 25
- **guest speakers** - **Ryuei, Michael McCormick** - feb 14;
Renshin Bunce - mar 21; **Konin Cardenas** - apr 18; **Fugan, Eugene Bush** - may 9; **Laura Burges** - jun 20 & oct 17;
Fugan, Eugene Bush - nov 14; **Ryuei, Michael McCormick** - dec 12

full moon ceremony - saturday, january 31st @ 11am - the full snow moon; hunting becomes very difficult, and so some Native

American tribes called this the hunger moon. other Native American tribes called this moon the "shoulder to shoulder around the fire moon" (Wishram Native Americans), the "no Snow in the trails moon" (Zuni Native Americans), and the "bone moon" (Cherokee Native Americans). the bone moon meant that there was so little food that people gnawed on bones and ate bone marrow soup.

Bodhidharma commemoration - sat., february 7 @11am

practice discussions are available with Rev. Daiko Tanzen, David Bullock. please contact him directly or email: hszc108@yahoo.com to request to schedule time.

members annual meeting (in lieu of this month's board of directors meeting) - wed., february 11 @ 7:30pm - this is an opportunity to get an update on the state of things at hszc, its board and their work. also if a your a member and interested, a chance to join our board of directors and discuss other significant needs or goals for hszc.

sangha council - sat., february 14

Parinirvana - sat., february 14

Chinese new year! - sat., february 21 - join us for our (past few years) tradition of chinese new year treats and to offer [joss paper](#) to loved ones in the realm(s) beyond. we will additionally say good-bye to the temple's [daruma](#) and offer gratitude for his successful goals from the prior year of the horse; and welcome this year, the year of the goat or ram and a new daruma with new goals for this year!

study hour - thursdays @7:30pm: the Vimalakīrti Sūtra. we can share books for anyone who wants to join in, or feel free to purchase a copy and join us (many are very low cost online, we focus on [Dr Thurman's version](#)). check our twitter page for any last minute changes in schedule.

closure & schedule changes

no morning (only) zazen & chanting/service on the last monday of every month. please check [our twitter](#) page for last minute changes

hartford sangha member spotlight: bodhisattva efforts within the homeless community - living in san francisco the daily reminder and awareness of the need for support of those without a home is found everywhere, every day. In a recent discussion around his work with homeless hszc's member and friend Paul Lee in having conversation with hszc's Jen Birkette suggested some organizations for those who wish to help or know good sources to donate to -

Glide Church (food, housing, harm reduction):
<http://www.glide.org/page.aspx?pid=425>

Maitri (Hospice, Respite Care, End of Life Care):
<http://maitrisf.org/care/>

Jana Drakka Community Services(meditation groups, SRO memorials, harm reduction): <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jana-Drakka-Community-Services/106284870605>

HIV meditation group; weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!
 thursdays & fridays
 10:30am zazen
 11:00am garden socializing

meditation in recovery; weekly meditation group for men & women in recovery from addiction
 fridays, 7:30pm - 9pm

(women only) **meditation in recovery;** monthly meditation group for women in recovery from addiction.

first thurs, 7:15pm -8:45pm

please contact us for rental space as well, events, ceremonies performed by a zen priest - weddings, memorials, coming of age & baby naming events.

[find other sf bay area lgbtqqi events here](#) - or - [here](#)

Abbot, hartford street zen center --
 - Reverend Myō Lahey ---



57 hartford street
 san francisco, CA 94114

info@hszc.org
 415.863.2507

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 & equanimous! _/_*

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